

# The Land Line

Traditional Communication in a High-tech World

## Sideoats grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*)

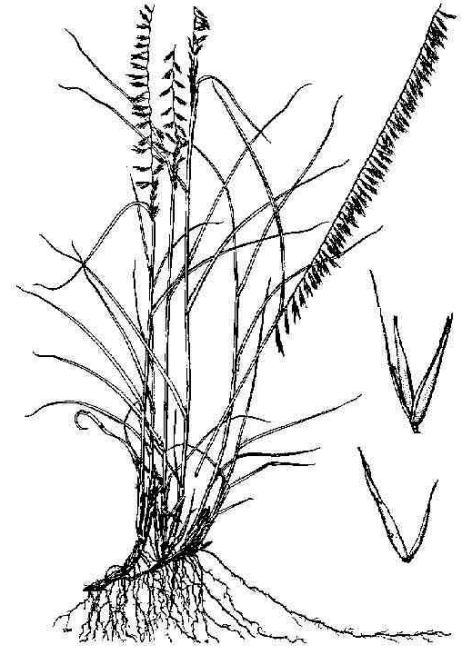
Sideoats grama is mid-sized native warm season perennial grass. It is widely distributed throughout the United States except for the northwestern and extreme southeastern states. Sideoats is very common to the southern plains being the state grass of Texas. It is also common throughout most of Mexico.

In the northern Great Plains it is most commonly found on fine textured soils and steep upland sites having a weak topsoil layer. Like little bluestem, it is prevalent on calcareous (chalky) soils. In upland plant communities it is associated with western wheatgrass, blue grama, and little bluestem.

Sideoats grama takes its name from the one-sided spikes which hang downward along one side of the flower stalk. These spikes drop when mature leaving a long zigzag stalk. Another distinguishing feature is the sparse hairs that occur along the edge of the leaf. The leaf color of the grass is bluish-green and cures to a reddish-brown color in the fall. Sideoats grama has larger leaves that are coarser than the other most common grama grass found in North Dakota; blue grama. Sideoats grama is not as resistant to grazing as blue grama because of its elevated growing point and taller growth habit. Sideoats grama decreases with heavy grazing pressure and can be maintained in the native rangeland plant community by maintaining a high level of plant vigor through proper grazing use and planned grazing systems which vary the season of use.

Although sideoats grama is not as palatable as blue grama, it has favorable palatability when compared to other grasses found on native rangeland. It stays green for a long time, so it helps lengthen the grazing season on native rangeland.

Sideoats grama's larger seed size, rapid germination and wide area of distribution make it a desired choice for native grass seed mixtures. The oat shaped seeds allow it to be fed easily through conventional grass drills making it one of the few native warm season grass species that can be seeded without needing specialized agitation fingers in the drill box. "Killdeer" and "Pierre" are two cultivars adapted for seeding in North and South Dakota.



## Surface Management Employees to Fund Annual Range Camp Scholarship

Once again employees of the Land Department's Surface Management Division are providing funding for the child or grandchild of one of our lessees to attend Youth Range Camp. The scholarship includes tuition, room, and board at Range Camp which is held annually to educate North Dakota youth in the wise management of grasslands.

This year's camp will be held June 17-20, 2008, at Hanson's Logging Camp Ranch northwest of Amidon. Campers must be 13-18 years old, and are responsible for their own transportation to and from camp.

To apply send your name, address, and telephone number on a note saying that you are applying for the School Trust Land Scholarship to:

**Kevin Sedivec**  
**North Dakota State University**  
**Box 5053, Hultz Hall**  
**Fargo, ND 58105**

The application deadline is not set but is generally mid-May. Check with your FHA advisor, extension agent, or Kevin Sedivec at 231-7647 (email [ksedivec@ndsuent.nodak.edu](mailto:ksedivec@ndsuent.nodak.edu)) for deadlines. The recipient will be selected randomly from those that apply.

## Poor Spray Results? It might be in the Water !

It turns out “cut the salt” is good advice for more than just the dinner table. Minerals, clay, and organic matter in spray carrier water can reduce the effectiveness of herbicides. Minerals can inactivate 2,4-D amine, MCPA amine, dicamba, glyphosate, and others. Water with 300 ppm sodium bicarbonate demonstrates antagonism to the above herbicides. High salt levels in spray water can reduce weed control in nearly all situations. Analysis of spray water sources will determine possible effects on the effectiveness of your herbicide. AMS (ammonium sulphate) at 2% (17 lb/100 gallons spray) will overcome the antagonism from the highest calcium and/or sodium concentrations in North Dakota waters. However, AMS at 1% is adequate for most North Dakota waters. Generally, 4 gal of 28% UAN/100 gal of spray (urea ammonium nitrate) has also been adequate. UAN overcomes mineral antagonism of most herbicides, but not glyphosate.

AMS and 28% UAN enhance herbicide control of certain weeds even in water without salts. This is especially true for glyphosate and, sulfonyleurea (SU) herbicides. Nitrogen fertilizer/surfactant blends (e.g. Surfate/ others) may enhance weed control of most herbicides formulated as a salt. However, AMS, 28% UAN, or other adjuvants should be used with caution as their benefit often is limited to specific herbicides or weeds and may be antagonistic to other herbicides or weeds. ALWAYS, ALWAYS read your label.

### Water samples can be tested at the following laboratory:

NDSU Soil and Water Environmental Laboratory,  
Waldron 202, NDSU, Fargo, ND 58105-5575 (701-231-7864)

*Text summarized from the **NDSU-Ext Service 2007 Weed Control Guide** with the permission of North Dakota State University and compiler Richard Zollinger*

### Fact or Myth?



The State was required to accept school lands as a condition of Statehood – **Fact.**

The 1889 “Enabling Act” that created North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana and Washington was very specific about the designation and purpose of school lands.

School lands are always sections 16 & 36 – **Myth.**

If section 16 or 36 were settled prior to statehood, then alternate sections were selected to replace the acreage that was not available. School lands can be in any section.

Trails on school land are open for public use – **Myth.**

Trails are only for management purposes and may not be used by the public, not even for hunting. If a neighbor needs to get to their land, Agricultural Access Permits are available at no charge.

Prescription does not apply to school trust lands – **Fact.**

Even though a fence or trail may have been used for more than 20 years, the State Constitution specifically prohibits any claim of ownership through prescription on school trust lands.

*Life is Simpler When you Plow  
Around the Stump!*

### Drought Management Calculator: Almost as Good as a Crystal Ball



Wouldn't it be great if you had a tool that would let you predict grass production for this year?

Within a couple of weeks the Drought Management Calculator will be available to you free of charge on the N.R.C.S., A.R.S., and North Dakota

Stockmen's websites.

The program was developed by Gale Dunn, A.R.S. and Arnold Norman, N.R.C.S. to help ranchers predict rainfall and forage production.

For example, if it was dry last year and we have low precipitation in May, what can we expect for forage production in June and July? If we get to mid June and we are still dry, will it help if we get a “gully washer” and how much will it help?

The drought calculator will either use your weather records from your ranch or it can go out to the internet and get the records from the nearest weather station. It can also recommend whether you should feed or sell, what animals you might sell, and when you might sell to maximize income.

The Drought Management Calculator is designed to be easy to operate and is based on local information. There is much more to it than this short article can cover, so ask your local N.R.C.S. Office for more information in March.

# Spring 2008 Surface Lease Auctions

(Times and locations of auctions are subject to change. Check the legal notices in your official county papers, call 328-2800, or log on to [www.land.nd.gov](http://www.land.nd.gov) to confirm dates, locations, and times prior to auction.)

*Tracts that remain unleased after the completion of the Spring Auctions are available for rent throughout the summer on a first-come, first-serve basis for the established minimum bid. Send request to lease, along with payment, to P.O. Box 5523, Bismarck, ND 58506-5523.*

## **Benson County**

Wednesday, March 19, 2008  
10:30 am CT  
Courthouse, Courtroom  
Minnewaukan, ND

## **Bottineau County**

Tuesday, March 18, 2008  
4:00 pm CT  
Courthouse, Ex-Serviceman's Rm  
Minot, ND

## **Burleigh County**

Thursday, March 20, 2008  
3:00 pm CT  
Courthouse, Commissioners Rm  
Mandan, ND

## **Cavalier County**

Wednesday, March 19, 2008  
10:30 am CT  
Courthouse, Court Room  
Minnewaukan, ND

## **Dunn County**

Tuesday, March 18, 2008  
10:00 am MT  
Courthouse, Commissioners Rm  
Manning, ND

## **Eddy County**

Wednesday, March 19, 2008  
1:00 pm CT  
Courthouse, Commissioners Rm  
New Rockford, ND

## **Emmons County**

Thursday, March 20, 2008  
11:00 am CT  
Courthouse, Courtroom  
Steele, ND

## **Grant County**

Thursday, March 20, 2008  
3:00 pm CT  
Courthouse, Commissioners Rm  
Mandan, ND

## **Kidder County**

Thursday, March 20, 2008  
11:00 am CT  
Courthouse, Courtroom  
Steele, ND

## **McHenry County**

Tuesday, March 18, 2008  
4:00 pm CT  
Courthouse, Ex-Serviceman's Rm  
Minot, ND

## **McIntosh County**

Thursday, March 20, 2008  
11:00 am CT  
Courthouse, Courtroom  
Steele, ND

## **McLean County**

Tuesday, March 18, 2008  
4:00 pm CT  
Courthouse, Ex-Serviceman's Rm  
Minot, ND

## **Mercer County**

Tuesday, March 18, 2008  
10:00 am MT  
Courthouse, Courtroom  
Stanton, ND

## **Mountrail County**

Tuesday, March 18, 2008  
4:00 pm CT  
Courthouse, Ex-Serviceman's Rm  
Minot, ND

## **Nelson County**

Wednesday, March 19, 2008  
1:00 pm CT  
Courthouse, Commissioners Rm  
New Rockford, ND

## **Pierce County**

Wednesday, March 19, 2008  
10:30 am CT  
Courthouse, Courtroom  
Minnewaukan, ND

## **Ramsey County**

Wednesday, March 19, 2008  
10:30 am CT  
Courthouse, Courtroom  
Minnewaukan, ND

## **Rolette County**

Wednesday, March 19, 2008  
10:30 am CT  
Courthouse, Courtroom  
Minnewaukan, ND

## **Sioux County**

Thursday, March 20, 2008  
3:00 pm CT  
Courthouse, Commissioners Rm  
Mandan, ND

## **Stutsman County**

Thursday, March 20, 2008  
11:00 am CT  
Courthouse, Courtroom  
Steele, ND

## **Ward County**

Tuesday, March 18, 2008  
4:00 pm CT  
Courthouse, Ex-Serviceman's Rm  
Minot, ND

NOTE: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Land Department asks that anyone needing auxiliary aids and services should call 701-328-2806 at least five days in advance of the auction. Also, Title VII of Civil Rights Act of 1964 and ND Human Rights Act of 1983 prohibits sexual harassment in any form. It is expected that all participants at the auction will use good judgment in determining whether their behavior may be offensive or unwelcome to others.

## **NEWSLETTER—On-line Customer Survey**

The folks who read this biannual publication of the **Land Line** are our customers—we prepare this for YOU—and we really are interested in getting some input from you related to its content. From our public auctions in recent years, we have learned that a majority of our readers have internet access, so we thought a free—and very short—on-line survey would be an easy (and maybe even fun) way for you to share your thoughts about this newsletter. We'd very much appreciate your participation in this effort.

You can take the survey by going to the Land Department's website—**[www.land.nd.gov](http://www.land.nd.gov)**—and linking up with our survey. We'll let you know how it turns out in our next edition.

Dare I say "Thanks" in advance? I hope so. 😊

The past six issues of the **Land Line** are available for viewing at  
**[www.land.nd.gov](http://www.land.nd.gov)**

## **Best Farm Real Estate Rates in Over 10 years!**

The Land Department makes farm real estate loans through a program administered by the Bank of North Dakota:

- ◆ 10-year adjustable and 25-year fixed rate loans
- ◆ Low origination fees (only \$500!)
- ◆ No prepayment penalties

Call Jeff Engleson at 1-800-845-6242 for more information.



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## **SURFACE MANAGEMENT STAFF**

(Pictured from Left To Right)

**Mike Humann** ([mhumann@nd.gov](mailto:mhumann@nd.gov))

Range Management, Permanent Improvements

**Linda Fisher** ([lfisher@nd.gov](mailto:lfisher@nd.gov)) - Leasing

**Jerry Saude** ([jsaude@nd.gov](mailto:jsaude@nd.gov))

Noxious Weed Control, Public Access, Leasing

**Mike Brand** ([mbrand@nd.gov](mailto:mbrand@nd.gov)) - Director

**Mike Haupt** ([mhaupt@nd.gov](mailto:mhaupt@nd.gov))

Rights of Way, Range Management, Reclamation

### **Not Pictured Are Our Fieldmen**

Dale Ferebee—Beach  
Chris Hansen—Napoleon  
Frank Kartch—Bismarck  
Roger Martin—Napoleon  
Mike Sondeland—Bowman  
Larry Veikley—Minot